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### State of Utah

#### Department of Workforce Services



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## Cedar City Gains A New Manufacturing Business and Another Receives Extended Life!

*Fixture manufacturers Goer West and Lozier intend to hire new employees and expand production.*

Store fixture and display manufacturer **Goer Manufacturing West** recently announced the purchase of their parent company, RHC Spacemaster, by Leggett & Platt.

In February, Goer West received word from RHC Spacemaster that the parent company had filed for bankruptcy. Since that time, local employees have not known what was going to happen to them.

On August 20, a formal announcement was made that Leggett & Platt purchased RHC Spacemaster. Leggett & Platt have over 30,000 employees worldwide and are one of the five largest manufacturers of store fixtures.

"It is planned that output will increase by 50 percent over the next year," according to Goers' General Manager Chuck Nichols. "The increase in output will mean the number of employees needed at the Goer plant in Cedar City will increase filling the facility to capacity," said Nichols.

In a company press release, Leggett reported that once the economy turns, the recovery in fixture demand should be robust. The Fortune 500 company has increased sales and earnings an average of 15 percent annually since going public in 1967.

The same day came the formal announcement that the vacant O'Sullivan building located off High-

*"This is the 14th or 15th manufacturer here in Cedar City. We are grateful for the jobs they will bring, but more so for the caliber of jobs with high wages and competitive benefits" said Gerald R. Sherratt, Mayor of Cedar City*

way 56 had been purchased by **Lozier Corporation**. Lozier plans to do renovations and should be in production at the Cedar City site by January 2004. Headquartered in Omaha Nebraska, Lozier Corporation specializes in retail store fixtures in the national and international markets.

Lozier expects to hire more than 100 employees to begin operations, and then expand to over 300 employees during the next five years. The plant has 534,590 square foot of building space to utilize and will offer a benefits program to their employees consisting of a full medical insurance plan, 401K, a pension plan vested after five years of service and a tuition reimbursement program.

Local Cedar City officials are excited about the future of Goer becoming stabilized, Lozier's confirmed purchase of the O'Sullivan building and what that means for the community.

## News You Can Use

### Submit Your Unemployment Insurance Appeal Online

The Department of Workforce Services (DWS) is excited to offer Utah employers an easier way to submit their unemployment insurance appeals. Employers now have the option of filing their appeals online. To file online, you must be registered with the DWS' Unemployment Insurance Division and been assigned a Personal Identification Number (PIN). It is easy to register with DWS online at: [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov)

The following outlines the steps for filing an appeal online. Although there are a number of steps, it is quite simple.

1. Go to [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov)
2. Under "Quick Links" choose "File an Appeal."
3. This form is only for registered employers. Choose "Employer Appeals."
4. Enter your State Identification Number and your PIN. Your PIN was assigned to you when you registered with the Unemployment Insurance Division. If you don't remember your PIN, click on "Need Your Pin?" and enter your Federal Identification Number in the appropriate box. Click "continue."
5. On the screen titled: "Confidential Information & Services," Choose the option entitled "How to Appeal Unemployment Insurance Determinations."
6. Choose "Submit Appeal Electronically."
7. On this page you have the option to file an initial appeal (if you haven't already had a hearing with an Administrative Law Judge) or to file an appeal to the Workforce Services Appeals Board (if you're appealing an Administrative Law Judge's decision.)
8. Complete the form and submit.

After submitting your appeal, you will receive a confirmation. Make sure you keep track of that number. You will receive correspondence from DWS advising you of the time, date, and place of your hearing within four weeks of submitting the appeal. If you have questions about your appeal status or the appeals process in general, call the Appeals Division at (801) 526-9300.

## DWS' Mission is to Connect Business with Solutions

We are grateful for the opportunity we have to serve you. If you have never used us, or if it has been awhile, it is time to check out what we have to offer.

Whether you are looking for employees, want to improve your workplace, or face laying off some of your workforce, we have all the solutions you need in one place.

- **Hiring and information solutions.** We can help you find the people you need to grow, and furnish the labor market information you want for solid business decisions.
- **Consultative solutions.** We want you to succeed and can connect you with a limitless number of solutions that enhance your workforce and grow your business.
- **Downsizing solutions.** We can ease the transition for your business and employees in the event you have to reduce your workforce.

At DWS, we are committed to connecting your business to the solutions you need. Visit us online at [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov) or call us 1-888-920-WORK and let our team help yours!

## Unemployment Insurance Claims Remain High

Benefits paid to Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claimants continue to remain at high levels in 2003 (January through July). Although down 11 percent compared to the same time last year, over \$143 million have been put into the Utah economy through the payment of regular UI claims.

Additionally, UI has paid claimants over \$31 million in Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation (TEUC) benefits and over \$9 million in State Additional Benefits.

How many people in the economy do these numbers represent? 57,000 have filed claims for regular UI, 13,000 for TEUC, and 8,000 for State Additional Benefits.

## Accessing Wage Data is Now Easier and Faster

Are you interested in how your pay compares to others in your occupation? Wondering what salary to offer for that position you need to fill? No matter who you are, or what your reasons are, we know you are interested in wage data. Fortunately, accessing Utah wage data (and other data as well) just got a lot faster and easier.

A new tool on the [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov) Web site, called the Utah Economic Data Viewer (UEDV), has just come on-line and it can simplify your search for information. Let's say you want to use the DWS Economic Information Web page to find out what the typical entry-level wage for an electrician is in Tooele County. In the past, this would require you first selecting the appropriate publication for wage data, then the right table, and finally, the occupation from an alphabetized list. But now, using UEDV from the main Economic Information page, you simply specify the parameters of your search, and UEDV retrieves that information from a database and builds you a chart just for the information you request.

Here is how it works: First, on the main page [jobs.utah.gov/wi/](http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/), scroll down to, and click on UEDV. Then select the specific tool you want to use-in this case, the *Utah Occupational Wage*

## UEDV | UTAH ECONOMIC DATA VIEWER

*Data Viewer.* Specify the geographic area you are inquiring about, then the occupation. Occupations can be specified by key word, occupational title, or a drill-down through broader occupational groups. Once you have set your parameters, click on "submit" and receive your customized chart showing the occupation you chose, in the area you specified, with its Entry, Average, Median, and Middle Range wages. You can also see the training that's typically required for the occupation, or even get a description of the occupation by clicking on the title. In addition, one click converts the hourly wage to a yearly figure.

The UEDV also can be used to quickly access other data: labor force data, such as employment numbers and unemployment rates, either seasonally adjusted or not, and population for the state as a whole or county (and multi-county) data.

More databases are being developed, so look for even more types of data to be available through this fast, easy tool in the future.

## [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov) Web site Offers Many Options For Customers

Since the official launch on November 2002, the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) Web site, [jobs.utah.gov](http://jobs.utah.gov) has been an unqualified success. By August 2, 2003 the site logged its 900,000th self-assisted job referral. In fact, it has already logged its one-millionth referral. Several enhancements to the Web site have allowed employers to conduct all of their transactions online. Other enhancements allow claimants to file all types of Unemployment Insurance claims on the Web site.

For the second quarter of 2003, 8,290 employers filed their quarterly unemployment taxes online. This is an increase of nearly 1,000 employers from the previous quarter. Besides registering and filing their quarterly reports, employers can reopen accounts, file their wage data, change ownership, make their own address changes and close their accounts.

The site has seen a steady increase in job referrals users every month. During the month of July, 154,793 self-referrals were made. This represents 67 percent of the total referrals made by DWS in July. One year ago, all of these referrals would have been made within the department's Employment Centers. In July, 8,925 new job seekers registered with DWS, 5,300 of the registrations were completed on the web, representing nearly 60 percent of all new registrations.

Currently there are approximately 35,000 job referrals on the Web every week. During peak hours there is an average of about ten referrals every minute. The DWS is taking seriously Governor Leavitt's challenge of making government available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. On weekends and holidays we typically get over 1,000 referrals a day.

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*Return Service Requested*Presorted  
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Permit #4621**Local news brief****Contact Numbers****Rotary Club Names Kim Johnson  
Dixie Rotarian of the Year**

The Rotary Club of Dixie Sunrise recently named **Kimberly Johnson** as recipient of the Rotarian of the Year Award. Outgoing president Rhys Weaver made the presentation citing Johnson's service to the community and to Rotary projects in the past year.

*Kimberly Johnson*

Johnson, a business consultant with the Department of Workforce Services, served the Rotary Club of Dixie Sunrise this past year as director of Club Services. Johnson also served on the board of directors for the St. George Chamber of Commerce, The Society of Human Resource Management, Friends Board for the Children's Justice Center, Dixie State Colleges Woman's Association and the Washington County Employer Committee.

**Business Consultants**

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